

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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DOE - G. HELFRICH (DRAFT)

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INR/STA - J. HAYES (DRAFT)

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S/S-O: SVALERGA

-----065882 150937Z /21

R 150024Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS-2

TAGS:MNUC, PARM, TW

SUBJECT:VISIT OF U.S. NUCLEAR TEAM

REFERENCE: (A) TAIPEI 3175

(B) TAIPEI 3695

1. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S THOUGHTS ON TEAM VISIT WHICH CLOSELY PARALLEL OUR OWN. PROCEEDING ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT ALL TRR RELATED ISSUES WILL BE RESOLVED AND THAT THE TRR FUEL MEASUREMENT PROGRAM WILL TAKE PLACE AS SCHEDULED JULY 7-21, WASHINGTON AGENCIES ARE PREPARING FOR TEAM VISIT TO TAKE PLACE DURING WEEK OF JULY 24-30.

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2. WE AGREE THAT, FOR PRACTICAL REASONS AND TO IMPRESS UPON ROC THE CONTINUITY OF OUR NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS WE SHOULD FIELD AS FAR AS POSSIBLE THE JANUARY 1977 TEAM. CONSEQUENTLY, THIS JULY'S TEAM WILL BE LED BY GERALD HELFRICH (DOE) AND WILL INCLUDE DAVID BROWN (EA/ROC), JORG MENZEL (ACDA), DEAN COOPER (OES/NET), ROY WYMER (OAK

RIDGE NATIONAL LABRATORY), MURRY KAVANAUGH (LAWRENCE LIVERMORE LABRATORY) AND JOE HAYES (INR/STA).

3. WE WOULD PLAN TO USE WEEK AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY - BRIEFINGS AT EMBASSY, INITIAL CALLS ON OFFICIALS (MOFA, CAEC, TAIPOWER)

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY - VISIT TO INER AND CIST, CALL ON GEN. TANG

THURSDAY - 1/2 TEAM MAKES SCHEDULED VISIT TO ORCHID ISLAND, 1/2 TEAM MAKES UNSCHEDULED VISIT TO URANIUM EXTRACTION PROJECT IN KAOHSIUNG

FRIDAY - OPEN FOR POSSIBLE RETURN VISIT TO INER, FINAL CALL AT MOFA

SATURDAY - WRAP-UP SESSION AT EMBASSY

RECOGNIZING THAT IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE ALL TASKS WITHIN ONE WEEK, TEAM IS PREPARED TO STAY LONGER IF NECESSARY.

4. IN INITIAL CALLS IN TAIPEI AND LUNGTAN, WE PLAN TO RE-EMPHASIZE NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES, THE IMPORTANCE
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OF ROC'S AVOIDING ANY ACTION CONTRARY TO OUR AGREEMENTS AND THE NEED FOR INER TO COOPERATE FULLY IN CONVERTING THE TRR TO LEU FUEL. WE HOPE TO HAVE SOME PRELIMINARY PAPERS ON THE CONVERSION ISSUE TO PRESENT TO ROC AND WE WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS, IN GENERAL TERMS, A US-ROC WORK SCHEDULE FOR TESTING THE PRACTICABILITY OF CONVERSION.

5. WHILE AT INER, WE WOULD WISH TO REVIEW ITS RESEARCH PROGRAM, CONFIRM THAT CERTAIN ACTIVITIES REMAIN TERMINATED, DISCUSS HEAVY WATER, REVISIT HIGH EXPLOSIVE TEST SITE AND CAREFULLY REVIEW INER AND CIST LASER RESEARCH. AT CIST/INER, WE WISH TO OBSERVE ENOUGH LASER WORK WHICH HAS APPLICATION TO ISOTOPE SEPARATION (LIS) TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR BROACHING LIS ISSUE WITH ROC. IN ADDITION TO DRAWING UPON KAVANAUGH'S KNOWLEDGE OF PREVIOUS LASER WORK, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO IDENTIFY OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION ON LASER WORK WHICH COULD BE CITED BY TEAM. AT THE PRESENT TIME, WE DO NOT ENVISAGE VISITING FACILITIES IN THE LUNGTAN AREA BEYOND THOSE VISITED IN JANUARY 1976.

6. ON THURSDAY, TEAM MEMBERS WOULD LIKE TO VISIT THE

ORCHID ISLAND NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL SITE (WHICH HAD TO BE DROPPED FROM THE 1977 TEAM VISIT). HALF OF THE TEAM, IN FACT, PLANS TO MAKE AN UNSCHEDULED VISIT THAT DAY TO

THE AREA IN KAOHSIUNG WHERE WORK ON PILOT URANIUM EXTRACTION PLANT IS BEING CONDUCTED, BUT WE DO NOT WISH TO ALERT ROC IN ADVANCE THAT WE INTEND TO VISIT THIS FACILITY. PURPOSE OF KAOHSIUNG VISIT IS TO OBSERVE MILITARY'S INVOLVEMENT IN URANIUM EXTRACTION WORK IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR OBJECTING TO THIS MILITARY INVOLVEMENT. WHILE IN KAOHSIUNG, TEAM WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS PILOT PLANT PROJECT WITH CHINA PHOSPHATE INDUSTRIES COMPANY EXECUTIVES AND TO VISIT WORK SITES. WE ARE REVIEWING INFORMATION TO DETERMINE WHAT SOURCES COULD BE
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CITED TO ROC IN REQUESTING ACCESS TO OTHER SITES (PARTICULARLY, MILITARY'S 22ND ARSENAL WHICH IS NEAR THE CHINA PHOSPHATE'S COMPOUND) WHERE WORK ON URANIUM EXTRACTION PLANT'S MACHINERY IS BEING CONDUCTED. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION ON THIS ASPECT OF TRIP, PARTICULARLY ON HOW TEAM CAN GAIN ACCESS TO 22ND ARSENAL. ALSO, WOULD APPRECIATE GENERAL INFORMATION DATT, MAAG OR OTHER SOURCES MAY HAVE ON 22ND ARSENAL.

7. WHILE TEAM FINDINGS WOULD SHAPE APPROACH TAKEN IN CONCLUDING CALL AT MOFA, WE ARE TENTATIVELY PLANNING TO FOCUS ON THREE ISSUES: QUESTIONS RAISED BY MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN URANIUM EXTRACTION PROJECT (AND IN THE NUCLEAR PROGRAM IN GENERAL), THE POTENTIAL ENRICHMENT-RELATED APPLICATIONS OF LASER RESEARCH WORK, AND THE QUESTION OF HEAVY WATER PRODUCTION. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE POINTS LEND THEMSELVES TO A RATHER TECHNICAL PRESENTATION, AS SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY.

8. ABOVE IS FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONVEYED TO ROC AT THIS TIME. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS EMBASSY MAY HAVE. WE WILL SEND INSTRUCTIONS ON PREPARATIONS FOR VISIT LATER WHEN AGREEMENT ON TRR ISSUES HAS BEEN REACHED. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, ITINERARY, VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE151813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DGBROWN:ARCK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780250-0050
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780655/aaaabvis.tel
Line Count: 160
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9b876088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 TAIPEI 3175, 78 TAIPEI 3695
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 sep 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2336815
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF U.S. NUCLEAR TEAM
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, TW, US
To: TAIPEI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9b876088-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014